(c) to (e): No such evasion has been detected. The outstanding income-tax arrears is only Rs. 1400/-.

Andhra Pradesh Government's request for writing off loan

2655. Dr. Y. LAKSHMl PRASAD : Will tlie Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested to write off Rs. 3491 crores out of the total outstanding loans due from the State Government on account of expenditure iitaured on anti-extremist operations being a National problem; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The Eleventli Finance Commission as per its Terms of Reference is required to make *an* assessment of the debt position of States and suggest such corrective measures as are deemed necessary, keeping in view tlie long term suslainabilit>' for both the Centre and States. Any debt relief to State/States will have to await the recommendations of tiie Eleventh Finance Commission.

Recommendations of the 11th Finance Commission

2656. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRIAH :

Will the Minister of FJNANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since received the recommendations of tlie Eleventli Finance Commission;

(b) if so, tlie details of the recommendations made by the Commission;

(c) whetlier tlie Commission have recommended the Government to substantially increase grants to various State Governments;

(d) whether Government have examined the recommendations of the Commission and propose to accept and implement in toto; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (e) The Eleventh Finance Commission has submitted its Interim Report on 15th January, 2000. The Interim Report alongwith Explanatory Memorandum as to the action taken on the

rcconuncndations made by the Eleventh Finance Conunission in Its Interiin Rqiort was laid on the tabic of the House on 16th March. 2000. Final report is due by 301h June. 2000.

Waiving of Loans of Weavers in Meghalaya

2657. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of HNANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of weax'crs of powerloom. handicrafls. handloom and the poor SCs/STs whose loans have been waned ofTin Meghalaya during the last three years till dale, district-w ise:

(b) if not. whether Govcnunent propose to waive olTtlie loans of sudi people who are living below poverty line in the State: and

(c) if so. the details thereof and by when the decision to wane off the loans of the poor people is likely to be taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) No loans in reject of any weavers of powerloom. handicrafts, handloom and the poor SCs/STs in the Stale of Mcghalaya have been waited off in the last three years and at present there is no proposal to waive off loans of the above categories.

Evasion of Taxes

265S. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item titled ^Traders go to other states to avoid Taxes" whidi appeared in the Times of India' dated the IDIh February. 2000;'

(b) whether it is a fact that eien the implementation of uniform sales tax has led to avoidance to tax in cotain commodities with a result that nnmber of Delhi Traders are shifting to other States where the tax rate is lower, and

(c) if so. what steps are being takoi to overcome the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No instance of traders diifting to other States with a view to avoiding sales tax on account of implementation of uniform rates erf" sales tax has been reported.

(c) Question does not arise.